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JCG96 U.S. PTO
09/987961
11/16/01



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

WAIDA et al.

Atty. Dck. No. 024938-00001

Serial No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: November 16, 2001

Art Unit: Unknown

For: PATTERN IDENTIFICATION APPARATUS, PATTERN IDENTIFICATION METHOD, AND PATTERN IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

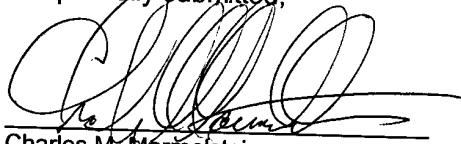
November 16, 2001

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

- c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$130.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
4. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 024938-00001	SERIAL NO. Not. Yet Assigned
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		APPLICANT WAIDA et al.	
		FILING DATE November 16, 2001	GROUP Unknown

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO PART.
	AG	11-328311	11/30/1999	Japan			Yes
	AH	07-249099	09/26/1995	Japan			Yes
	AI	07-044682	02/14/1995	Japan			Yes
	AJ	11-184965	07/09/1999	Japan			Yes
	AK						
	AL						

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AM	
	AN	
	AO	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

PRIOR ART INFORMATION LIST

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Inventor, Patent Number, Country, Author, Title, Name of Document	Issue date	Concise Explanation of the Relevance (indication of page, column, line, figure of the relevant portion)
Japanese Patent Laid-Open No.11-184965	Jul.09.1999	We enclose the brief English Translation thereof.
Japanese Patent Laid-Open No.11-328311	Nov.30.1999	We enclose the brief English Translation thereof.
Japanese Patent Laid-Open No.7-44682	Feb.14.1995	We enclose the brief English Translation thereof.
Japanese Patent Laid-Open No.7-249099	Sep.26.1995	We enclose the brief English Translation thereof.